



**OUR FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS
MARK EUGENICUS, METROPOLITAN OF EPHESUS
WHOM THE HOLY CHURCH CELEBRATES ON MARCH 19.**

The great teacher and invincible defender of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, *Saint Mark*, was the offspring and scion of the imperial city, Constantinople. Reared by most pious parents, and instructed in secular and spiritual wisdom, he became pre-eminent in both. Saint Mark lived as an ascetic on the Princes' Islands and later in the Monastery of Saint George Magana in Constantinople. He passes through all the degrees of the Priesthood, and was finally advanced to the dignity of Archbishop and the lofty throne of the Metropolis of Ephesus. At the insistence of Emperor John Paleologus, the Saint was sent to the council of the Latins in Florence, to unite the churches that had been divided for so many years. He astounded the Papal teachers with the divine wisdom of his words, and was the only one who did not sign the blasphemous decree of that false council. Because of this, the holy Church of Christ has ever honored this great man as a benefactor, teacher, sole defender, and invincible champion of the Apostolic Confession. He reposed in 1443.

*Dismissal Hymn of Saint Mark
Third Tone. Thy Confession*

O ALL-LAUDABLE and most divine Mark * in thee the Church found a great zealot * by thy confession of the holy and sacred Faith; * for thou didst champion the doctrines which the Fathers taught * and didst cast down darkness' boastful pride. * Wherefore pray thou to Christ God for them that honor thee, * that we be granted the forgiveness of sins.

*Kontakion of Saint Mark. Third Tone
On this day the Virgin*

CLAD, O godly-minded one, * with an invincible armour, * thou didst dash to pieces the pride of the Western rebellion; thou wast brought forth as the champion of Orthodoxy, * as the Comforter's own instrument and pure vessel. For this cause, to thee, we cry out: * Rejoice, O Mark, thou boast of the Orthodox flock.



OIKOS

WHAT reward, what worthy thanks can we offer unto thee, O most holy Mark? For after purifying thyself by asceticism, thou becamest an instrument of theology. As a hierarch, thou didst resist heretics even unto blood for the sake of the patristic teachings, becoming the resurrection of them that had fallen into heresy, the safety of those in peril, the reconciliation of the erring, and the teacher of Orthodoxy to all. Wherefore, as is meet, we cry unto thee unceasingly: Rejoice, O Mark, thou boast of the Orthodox flock.

SYNAXARION

On the nineteenth of this month we commemorate our Father Among the Saints Mark Eugenikus, Archbishop of Ephesus, the single-handed contender and champion of Orthodoxy.

Verses

In myth, Atlas upholdeth the world on his shoulders;
But in truth, Mark upholdeth Orthodox doctrine.

The nineteenth demarcated Mark from earthly life.

By his holy intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy on us.

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WHICH THE HOLY CHURCH
COMMEMORATES AUGUST 16.